ILMUNC 30

THE IVY LEAGUE MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2014

GUIDE TO WRITING RESOLUTIONS

During lobbying and debate, delegations with similar suggestions will begin to come together to form working groups, and delegates will combine ideas and suggestions to create resolutions. Resolutions are suggested solutions to the global community for the topic at hand and are the end result of debate and working papers. Resolutions are written by these groups of delegates and voted on by the committee as whole.

KEY PHRASES OF RESOLUTIONS

While healthy debate and constructive caucusing are very important to MUN, they exist simply to lead the delegates to a final product. – the resolution. Below is a list the basic terms relating to different components of resolutions:

• Clause: one section of a resolution, containing one argument or one action

• Phrase: Phrases are the first word(s) of a clause. They introduce the clause and define the nature of its recommendations. See Appendix A for a list of operative and preambulatory phrases.

• Preambulatory Clause: The preambulatory clauses (also called preambles) of a resolution state the reasons for addressing the topic. Preambles can reference the UN charter and past international actions. Each clause begins with a perambulatory phrase and ends with a comma.

• Operative Clause: Actions and recommendations made in a resolution are written in the form of operative clauses (or operatives, for short). Each operative is numbered, begins with an operative phrase, and ends with a semicolon. Operative should be organized logically with each clause containing a single idea or proposal. The resolution ends in a period after the last operative.

• Amendment: An amendment is a change that a delegate would like to introduce to the resolution once it has already been submitted to the chair.

RESOLUTION FORMAT

Basically, a resolution should be written as one continuous sentence. Resolutions have a very specific and strict format that allows the reader to easily follow the resolution and avoids confusion or ambiguity within the clauses. The following is a brief outline of the official resolution format used at ILMUNC. See Appendix B for a detailed example. All resolutions submitted by working groups at the conference must adhere to the format on the following page:

Committee Name
Resolution #

Topic:
Sponsors:
Signatories:

The (Committee Name),

Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),

Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),

...,

1. Operative Phrase (operative clause);

2. Operative Phrase (operative clause):
    a. (Sub-clause),
    b. (Sub-clause),
    c. (Sub-clause):
        i. (Sub-sub-clause),
        ii. (Sub-sub-clause),
        iii. (Sub-sub-clause);

...;

7. Operative Phrase (operative clause).

NOTES ON WRITING A RESOLUTION

Preambulatory Clauses

Each preamble begins with a preambulatory phrase (See those listed in Appendix A). The clause must meet the following criteria:

1. The preambulatory phrase must be italicized.
2. The first word of the clause must be capitalized.
3. Preambles are not numbered.
4. Each preamble ends with a comma.
5. Skip a line between each clause. Indent all lines of each clause after the first line.
6. Preambles cannot have sub-clauses.
7. Acronyms and abbreviations should be written out completely when they first appear in the resolution.

Thereafter, they can be abbreviated.

Operative Clauses

Each preamble begins with an operative phrase (See those listed in Appendix A). The clause must meet the following criteria:

1. The operative phrase must be underlined.
2. The first word of the clause must be capitalized.
3. Operative phrases are numbered.
4. Each operative clause ends with a semi-colon. The last operative clause ends wit a period.
5. Skip a line between each clause. Indent all lines of each clause after the first line.
6. Operative clauses may have sub-clauses. Sub-clauses should be indented, and listed next to letterings a., b., etc. Sub-sub-clauses should be indented once more beyond sub-clauses, and listed next to numberings i., ii., etc.
7. Acronyms and abbreviations should be written out the first time they appear in the resolution. Thereafter they can be abbreviated.

Sponsorship and Signatory Status

A resolution requires sponsors and/or signatories to be presented on the floor. The number of sponsors and signatories must add to one-fifth of the committee. A sponsor takes part in the writing of a resolution, while a signatory simply wants to see the resolution debated.

Amendments

An amendment changes a resolution by adding, striking out, or substituting a word or phrase. There are two types of amendments: friendly and unfriendly, all of which must be submitted to the Chair in writing. Amendments may not be amended, and may not amend the preamble of a resolution. (See ILMUNC Rule 36).

Friendly Amendments

A friendly amendment is agreed upon by all sponsors of the resolution. It automatically becomes part of the resolution upon being submitted.

Unfriendly Amendments

An unfriendly amendment is not supported by one or more of the sponsors. An unfriendly amendment requires signatures from one-fifth of the body to be considered. Unfriendly amendments are voted upon at the closure of debate, before their respective resolutions, in the order submitted, and are treated as individual entities (similarly to resolutions). An unfriendly amendment requires a two-thirds vote to become included in the resolution.

GUIDE TO MODEL UN PROCEDURE

APPENDIX A: PREAMBULATORY AND OPERATIVE PHRASES

Preambulatory Phrases

Affirming
Alarmed by
Approving
Aware of
Bearing in mind
Believing
Confident
Contemplating
Convinced
Declaring
Deeply concerned
Deeply conscious
Deeply convinced
Deeply disturbed
Deeply regretting
Desiring
Emphasizing
Expecting

Expressing its appreciation
Expressing its satisfaction
Fulfilling
Fully alarmed
Fully aware
Fully believing
Further deploring
Further recalling
Guided by
Having adopted
Having considered
Having considered further
Having devoted attention
Having examined
Having heard
Having received
Having studied
Keeping in mind

Noting with regret
Noting with deep concern
Noting with satisfaction
Noting further
Noting with approval
Observing
Reaffirming
Realizing
Recalling
Recognizing
Referring
Seeking
Taking into account
Taking into consideration
Taking note
Viewing with appreciation
Welcoming

Operative Phrases

Accepts
Affirms
Approves
Authorizes
Calls
Calls upon
Condemns
Confirms
Congratulates
Considers
Declares accordingly
Deplores
Designates
Draws the attention
Emphasizes
Encourages
Endorses
Expresses its appreciation
Expresses its hope
Further invites
Further proclaims

Further reminds
Further recommends
Further requests
Further resolves
Has resolved
Notes
Proclaims
Reaffirms
Recommends
Regrets
Reminds
Requests
Solemnly affirms
Strongly condemns
Supports
Takes note of
Transmits
Trusts

APPENDIX B: EXAMPLE RESOLUTION

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
Resolution 1.1

Topic: Eliminating gender disparities in education by 2015
Sponsors: Saudi Arabia, Iran
Signatories: Jordan, Syria, Oman, Qatar, Venezuela, Cuba, Russian Fed.

The Economic and Social Council,

Alarmed by the lack of enforcement of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW),

Cognizant of the importance of gender-neutral education standards by 2015 as a component of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),

Noting with approval those initiatives recently undertaken in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure increased levels of education for future generations of women in the Middle East,

1. Suggests gender segregation remain in primary and secondary education where this structure is already in place;

2. Reaffirms that select nations do not segregate schools by gender, and is not proposing to divide said school systems;

3. Proposes additional specialization be provided in schools to:
   a. Further acknowledge and utilize the differences between genders,
   b. Alter secondary school curriculums to contain more concentrated courses including:
      i. Female philosophy or psychiatric classes which would prove useful in raising a family and keeping a peaceful household,
      ii. Improved male physical education and literate or scientific classes;
   c. Help administer knowledge that will be useful in the everyday lives of both genders;

4. Recommends all school systems exercising gender segregation be kept balanced concerning materials and resources;

5. Further recommends a new observational system be set in place:
   a. By the United Nations,
   b. Made available to all nations already segregated by gender or wishing to do so,
   c. To monitor the equal distribution of supplies, materials, teachers, and resources administered to all public male and female schools;

6. Accepts that each nation will have its own cultural differences and opinions on this matter.

ALSO SEE...
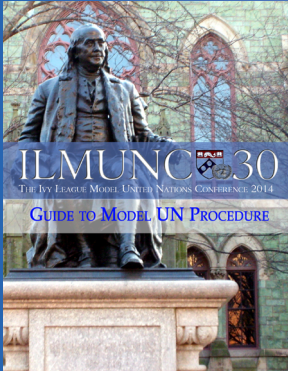
ILMUNC 30's **RULES OF MODEL UN PROCEDURE** is designed to provide a reference to the many motions, points, and other parliamentary actions that can be taken during committee. Whether you are brand new to Model UN or a seasoned expert that needs a reminder, this guide is available for you to be able to check up on the official ILMUNC rules of debate.
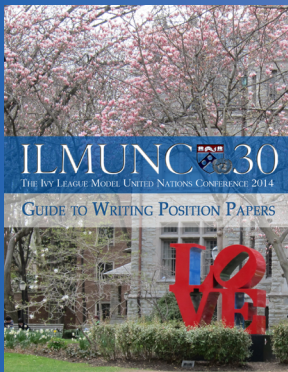
The position paper is not only the first impression that you give to the dais, but also a source for you to refer to during debate. ILMUNC 30's **GUIDE TO WRITING POSITION PAPERS** outlines how to properly structure and format your position paper for submission as well as a sample position paper.

The first step in drafting a resolution, working papers are an important preliminary document in general assembly, economic and social, and specialized committees. They are a written way to share ideas with the committee and provide a foundation to later write more specific resolutions. Though a working paper has no specific format, ILMUNC 30's **GUIDE TO WRITING WORKING PAPERS** includes two sample working papers for reference.